

New Jersey Department of Transportation
QUALITY IMPROVEMENT ADVISORY

QUALITY MANAGEMENT SERVICES

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QIA No. QIA012

Approved: Brian Strizki
Date: 4/9/98

Process Affected:

☒ Scope ☐ Design ☐ Right of Way ☐ Utilities ☐ Environmental ☐ Historic ☐ Construction

Bureaus Affected: All Design Consultants
In House Design Units

Procedure(s) Affected: Scope Development

Route & Section: N/A

County/Municipality: N/A

Project Summary: N/A

Nature of Problem(s):

When conditions warrant, a design exception may be granted for a project design which proposes a controlling substandard design element. In many cases, incomplete design exception reports are being submitted to the Office of Civil Engineering for review and approval. The following are the top ten reasons design exceptions are returned:

1. No or outdated traffic accident analysis
2. Missing data on the existing/proposed/required criteria
3. All alternatives not considered
4. Faulty logic in the justifications
5. Missing safe speed calculation
6. Missing safety countermeasures
7. All costs and Impacts not listed/described
8. Missing project description
9. Missing concurrence memo for bridge items
10. Improper format of report/opening & closing paragraphs

Recommendation(s):

A design exception may be approved when it can be documented that a lesser design value is the best practical alternative without jeopardizing safety. In order to ensure timely completion of the projects and avoid resubmission, all designers must follow Section 3.8 of the NJDOT Procedures Manual for submission of design exception reports.

Implementation: Effective immediately

Impact Assessment:

☐ Schedule ☐ Quality ☐ Cost ☒ Scope

Cost Impact: